

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 55

BY SENATORS MARIONNEAUX, ADLEY, AMEDEE, BAJOIE, BARHAM, BOASSO, BROOME, CAIN, CHAISSON, CHEEK, CRAVINS, DARDENNE, DUPLESSIS, DUPRE, ELLINGTON, FIELDS, FONTENOT, B. GAUTREAUX, N. GAUTREAUX, HEITMEIER, HINES, HOLLIS, JACKSON, JONES, KOSTELKA, LENTINI, MALONE, MCPHERSON, MICHOT, MOUNT, MURRAY, NEVERS, ROMERO, SCHEDLER, SHEPHERD, SMITH, THEUNISSEN AND ULLO

A RESOLUTION

To express the sincere and heartfelt condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana to the family of United States Army National Guard Sergeant Lee M. Godbolt upon his death in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

WHEREAS, it is with the deepest regret and the most profound sorrow that the Senate has learned of the tragic death in combat of Sergeant Godbolt; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Godbolt was a native of New Orleans and a graduate of Lawless High School and attended Southern University in New Orleans before enlisting in the Army National Guard; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Godbolt was the second Lawless High School graduate to die in the Iraqi War in the past two months; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Godbolt was a member of the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 141<sup>st</sup> Field Artillery Regiment, 256<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade Combat Team when his unit was deployed to Iraq in the Fall of 2004; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Godbolt loved his family and friends and missed them dearly during his tour of duty, he loved his country and felt it was his duty to put his life on the line in protecting his homeland while serving in the uniformed armed services of his country in its war on terror; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Godbolt's highest priority was accomplishing his unit's mission and getting the men under his command safely back home to their families once their tour was complete; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Godbolt always placed the needs of his country, his unit, and his men above his own needs and personal interests; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Godbolt was 23 years old when he embarked on a mounted patrol on March 26, 2005, through the deadly streets and alleys of Baghdad on a mission to find, fix, and destroy elements of a terrorist force reported to be conducting operations in the city; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Godbolt and a fellow soldier were attacked by enemy forces who struck their vehicle with another vehicle armed with an improvised explosive device, mortally wounding both Sergeant Godbolt and his comrade; and

WHEREAS, the loss of Sergeant Godbolt and his fellow soldier was almost more than his family and friends could endure, their ultimate sacrifice for their country made citizens around Louisiana rally in support of the National Guard's gallant efforts in the war on terror and the liberation of Iraq; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Godbolt will forever be remembered by his family, friends, and fellow soldiers as a dedicated soldier and his sacrifice serves as a reminder that freedom is never free and Americans may have to fight to protect the freedoms and liberties its citizens now enjoy.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express a profound sense of loss and sends its heartfelt condolences from a grateful state and nation to the family of United States Army National Guard Sergeant Lee M. Godbolt for fighting America's enemies in a faraway land.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of the Resolution be transmitted to the family of Sergeant Lee M. Godbolt.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE